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On 17 September the East China Air Force Command Headquarters issued instructions to all its subordinate air base commands to strengthen air defenses in the East China Military Area. These instructions are summarized as follows:

- a. Since last August enemy planes have often been sighted over the East China coast. The various air base commands must strengthen all air defense measures promptly, in order to provide better air protection of our Fatherland.
- b. We must not fight any battle unless we are prepared and have confidence in winning. The various air base commands must formulate offensive and defensive plans, considering probable and possible methods of invasion by enemy planes; from time to time they must carry out exercises based on those plans.
- c. The various air defense stations, outposts and patrol planes must be alerted to keep close watch of the air. We must be sure that all enemy planes which appear in our area of responsibility can be detected and kept under observation, no matter when or where they may appear.
- d. All planes should be placed in underground hangars as promptly as possible after training flights are completed. All surface installations which can be moved underground must be placed in underground shelters, and those which can not be moved underground must be better camouflaged.
- e. All civilian air defense measures should be examined to insure they are in proper order; they should be expanded to meet actual needs.
- f. All grades of command, combat and ground service personnel must continually study combat tactics and perfect technical skills under the supervision of Soviet advisers. We must avail ourselves of the advanced experience of the USSR and use it as an example to follow in overcoming all difficulties we now face in technical skill and supplies.

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